Building of airport at Kannur, Kerala

9. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in building an airport at Kannur in Kerala; and

(b) by when Government is expecting to complete the construction of the said airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Government of India has given 'in-principle' approval for a greenfield airport at Kannur in February, 2008.

(b) As per the Techno Economic Feasibility Report submitted by Government of Kerala, the Phase-I of the project is expected to be completed within two years from the commencement of the construction.

Airports at Hyderabad and Bangalore

10. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the existing airports at Hyderabad and Bangalore will be closed once the new airports are commissioned there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that laying of approach roads and other related works/facilities at these new airports is still incomplete;

(d) if so, the reasons for commissioning these new airports in a hurried manner; and

(e) the fate of the existing airports at Hyderabad and Bangalore, which have all the international standard aviation infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The existing airports at Hyderabad and Bangalore are to be closed when the new airports become operational.

(c) The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have undertaken various projects for providing connectivity to the new airports at Shamshabad, (Hyderabad) and Devanhali, (Bangalore). The projects are at various stages of completion.

(d) Commissioning of the new airports is pursuant to the provisions of the contractual agreements with the concerned airport companies.

(e) The existing airports at Hyderabad and Bangalore would be closed for commercial operations once the new airport becomes operational.

Aircrash of a twin engined aircraft in Bangalore

11. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the aircrash of a private twin engined aircraft in Bangalore in September, 2007 was a result of ATF being filled instead of AVGAS into the aircraft; and

(b) what is the status of the investigation into this crash?